Forest convention

3040. SHRI SANTOSH BAGRODIA: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state: What is Government's reaction to the proposed Forest Convention on Environment and Development and Biodiversity Convention to be held at Brazil?

THE MNISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI KAMAL NATH): The UN Conference on Environment and Development (UNCED) is to be held in Brazil in June 1992. Among a number of other subjects, this Conference is also likely to discuss principles of forestry and issues related to a biodiversity Convention which is being separately negotiated under the auspices of the United Nations Environment Programme.

Ganga Action Plan

3041. PROF. SAURIN BHATTACHARYA: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) what are the reasons that Ganga Action Plan have not dealt with the diversion of river between Kanpur and Varanasi so far;

(b) whether it is a fact that due to abnormal trend of the river, most of the cities within the above range have been facing the paucity of drinking water;

(c) whether it is a fact that the dry river beds have been encroached upon and Government have been failing to deal with cases of encroachments effectively resulting in wastage of Government funds for the plan;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) the action Government propose to take to remove encroachers and to allow the river to have its normal flow with cleanliness?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI KAMAL NATH): (a) The Ganga Action Plan has not dealt with diversion of river Ganga between Kanpur and Varanasi because the Ganga Action Plan is aimed at taking steps for pollution abatement of the river only.

(b) No, Sir.

(c) to (e) Reported encroachments on the dry river bed have not resulted in wastage of Government funds under the Ganga Action Plan.

मध्य प्रदेश की लंबित पड़ी मान परियोजना

3042. **श्री लक्खीराम अग्रवाल** : क्या **पर्यावरण और वन** मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) क्या यह सच है कि मध्य प्र मान परियोजना के जलागम के क्षेत्र के सुधार कार्य हेतु पर्यावरण स्वीकृति दिया जाना काफी समय से लंबित है ; और

(ख) यदि हां, तो स्वीकृति के कब तक दिए जाने की संभावना है ?

पर्यावरण और वन मंत्रालय के राज्य मंत्री (श्री कमल नाथ) : (क) और (ख) जी, नहीं । मध्य प्रदेश को मान परियोजना को जनवरी, 1984 में पर्यावरणीय मंजूरी पहले ही दी जा चुकी है ।

World Bodies in Afforestation Programme

3043. SHRI M. VINCENT: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether there are any schemes to entrust large afforestation programme to world bodies/foreign organisation; and

(b) if so, what are the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI KAMAL NATH): (a) and (b) Details of the afforestation projects (including Social Forestry) under implementation in the country with external assistance are given in the Statement attached.

Statement

Details of externally aided afforestation projects (including Social Forestry).

Sl. No.	Project Title	States	Donor Agency
1	National Social Forestry Project . . .	Himachal Pradesh, Gujarat, Rajasthan Uttar Pradesh	World Bank
2	Social Forestry Project	Karnataka	World Bank
3	Social Forestry Project	Kerala	World Bank
4	Social Forestry Project	Bihar	SIDA (Sweden)
5	Social Forestry Project	Orissa	SIDA (Sweden)
6	Social Forestry Project	Tamil Nadu	SIDA (Sweden)
7	Rehabilitation of Common lands in the Aravalli Hills	Haryana	EEC
8	Afforestation and pasture development along Indira Gandhi Canal Area	Rajasthan	OECF (Japan)

Encroachment upon Reserved Forest Area in Delhi

3044. DR. NAGEN SAIKIA: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that some residents of New Rajendra Nagar area have encroached upon the ridge area, a reserved forest area in New Delhi;

(b) if so, the details in this regard; and

(c) what steps are being taken in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI KAMAL NATH): (a) to (c) There is no such encroachment in the ridge area in Reserved Forest as per the report received from the Central Public Works Department.

Felling of Trees by Unscrupulous Elements

3045. SHRI S. S. AHLUWALIA: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware that the vested interests in connivance with the forest officials have turned tree-felling into a business in many parts of the country, resulting in vanishing of forest covers in such areas;

(b) if so, what are the details of such areas; and

(c) what action Government propose to take to break the nexus between vested interests and forest officials?